

RUTLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1942.

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Members of the Public Health, Housing, Maternity & Child Welfare,
and Mental Deficiency Committee :-

The Chairman of the Council - Alderman W.L. Sargent.

Alderman A.R. Beaumont.

Councillors :-

Major C. Bland;

E. Makey;

J.W. Blood;

Major G.K.F. Ruddie;

Miss A.S. Brocklebank;

T.J. Sharpe;

J.J. Hooley;

W.W. Williamson.

Major R.P. Spencer;

Co-opted (Members)

Mrs W.W. Williamson;

Mrs Makey;

Mrs Barnacle;

Dr E.S. Edwards;

Lady Alice Willoughby.

I judge it advisable to say a few words on the changes which are suggested in local administration, especially as regards the Public Health Services.

The smaller County Councils have for long been regarded with disfavour by the central authorities, and the County Councils Association has suggested the abolition of their smaller brethren with an alacrity which eclipsed even Abraham's loyal obedience. The central authorities, highly elated at this "gentle and unforced accord", proceeded to make plans not only to engulf the smaller, but also the larger authorities in the maw of regionalism. Already several police forces have been abolished, the fire service has been taken over, and arrangements are, or shortly will be made to take over the supervision of milk production. All that will be left to the County Councils will be dentistry and mental deficiency.

It may be well to remind the County Council of what has been affected by the various Committees concerned with the health of the people.

Housing (Rural Workers) Act.

This has been energetically worked. Grants for improvement and reconditioning have been approved for 93 houses. 75 houses have been completed, one has been commenced but not completed, and on 5 work has not yet begun. 12 have been abandoned. The total amount certified to be paid by way of grants to March 1943 is £6,364, 10- 0.

Mental Deficiency.

That the arrangements for ascertainment and subsequent disposal of mental defectives is adequate is proved by the reports received from the Board of Control, in which it has been repeatedly stated that the number of defectives ascertained, in institutions, and under Guardianship is within the first half-dozen of the English counties.

Tuberculosis.

The arrangements are held to be satisfactory by the Ministry. This County, with the Soke of Peterborough, were the first counties to adopt artificial pneumothorax treatment for cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. In 1922 I was the only County Tuberculosis Officer asked to contribute to the Medical Research Council's Report on artificial pneumothorax - a form of treatment which is the greatest advance made in the treatment of tuberculosis since the Sanatorium.

Venereal Diseases.

As arrangements with neighbouring hospitals had proved to be unsatisfactory to the Ministry of Health, arrangements were made for the County Medical Officer to undertake this treatment. The attendances have always been most satisfactory, being 535 in 1942, compared with those of Holland - Lincs - (pop; 95,910) of 1,910 at the two clinics of Boston and Spalding in 1941, and for Kesteven (Lincs) 1,099 at the Grantham Clinic in the same year. Further, in view of poor methods of transport it has been the custom since the County Council took over this work for patients being attended in their own homes, if they have no objection. Rutland is one of the few counties to adopt this simple procedure.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This work has been taken over from the local sanitary authorities by the County Council. The work has proceeded satisfactorily. I had, up to the end of June 1943, immunised 2,252 children, 762 being under 5 years of age, and 1,490 between the ages of 5 and 15 years. Before this some 1,600 children had been immunised by private practitioners.

Maternal and Child Welfare.

This County was one of the first to establish a consultant service and to arrange for the in-patient treatment of cases suffering from defects or living in an unsatisfactory home. It was one of the first to provide dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The Council was one of the first to establish an orthopaedic scheme, which is undertaken by the Manfield Hospital Authorities. It is concerned with infants, school children, and adults.

The medical work of the Education Committee has always received the commendation of the Board of Education, and in this connection I would remind you that you were, I believe, the first County Authority to establish central schools, and one of the first to establish a travelling dental clinic.

Lastly I would direct your attention to the beautiful new wards established by the Public Assistance Committee in their Institution - second to none in the country say the Ministry.

It is true that some reforms may be necessary, but as we are fighting a war to preserve democracy would it not be better to continue with "local government which is the essence of successful democracy." ?

Perhaps a start might be made with the central authorities. Twenty-five years ago the Ministry of Health was set up in place of the old Local Government Board. It was proposed to centralize all the health work of the country, but according to Sir Arthur MacNalty there are, in addition to the Ministry of Health, medical departments established for:

- (1) The Board of Education, looking after the health of school children.
- (2) The Board of Control, looking after lunatics and mental defectives.
- (3) The Ministry of Food, dealing with nutrition.
- (4) The Ministry of Pensions, looking after soldiers and sailors.
- (5) The Ministry of Labour & National Service, looking after the health of industrial workers.
- (6) Mines Department - concerned with the medical inspection of miners.
- (7) Ministry of War Transport - concerned with the health of the Merchant Navy.
- (8) The General Post Office - concerned with the health of the post office worker.
- (9) The Board of Agriculture with the health of the cows.

In addition there are the medical departments of the Army, Navy, Air Force, the Colonies and India. In fact the only body that was taken over by the Ministry was the National Insurance scheme. Sir Arthur MacNalty advises the creation of regional schemes, although he is careful to point out that attempts at this in 1919 at Tyneside failed, and a similar scheme for the Government Housing Scheme had to be abolished. The country was for that purpose divided into nine or ten regions, and regional offices with large technical and administrative staffs were established.

County Medical Officers were asked to attend conferences which were held at centres as inconvenient as possible for the officers of local authorities, the centres for Rutland being in midland towns, e.g., Leicester, Derby and Nottingham, and that for the Soke of Peterborough in London. The whole scheme was so inordinately expensive of time and money that it was summarily destroyed and has never been revived. Sir Arthur suggests that in order to preserve local interests the members of the regional councils should be appointed by the County Councils. The existing boundaries of counties will be maintained. It seems to me that all the advantages of his scheme have been reached in Rutland. You combine with Leicestershire for lunacy and mental deficiency, you make use of general and special hospitals in Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, the Soke of Peterborough, Northamptonshire and Cambridge, and all this without establishing a palatial mansion full of officials.

POPULATION

The population of the County in 1942, as estimated by the Registrar-General is 18,980 - a decrease of 610 on his estimate for the year 1941.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births.</u>	Legitimate	Males	163.	Females	158.	Total	321
	Illegitimate	"	7	"	7	"	14
	Total	"	170	"	165	"	335

BIRTH RATE 17.6

<u>Stillbirths</u>	Males	6.	Females	6;	Total	12
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Rate per 1000 total births 34.5

Rate per 1000 of population 0.63

<u>Deaths</u>	Males	102.	Females	112.	Total	214
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DEATH RATE 11.2

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live births :-

Legitimate	10	Rate	31.1
Illegitimate	0	"	.0
Total	10	"	29.8

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :-

From sepsis	0
From other causes	1

Deaths from Measles	(all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	" "	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea	(under 2 yrs)	0

The rateable value of the County is £111,265, and the product of a penny rate is £459.

The birth rate for England and Wales was 15.4; in the 126 great towns 17.4; in the 148 smaller towns 18.4, and in London 14.0. In England and Wales the stillbirth rate was 0.54 per 1000 of the population; in the 126 great towns 0.66; in the 148 smaller towns 0.62, and in the London administrative County 0.43.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of births in Rutland during the last years, the figures for the last five years being 1938- 252; 1939 - 256; 1940 - 288; 1941 - 315; 1942 - 335. During the first Great War in the years 1915 to 1918 the births numbered 376; 311; 272; 263. This may be explained by the greater number of men then serving overseas.

MIDWIVES

277 of the 335 births in 1942 were notified to the County Medical Officer, 167 by midwives and 110 by Doctors. It must be remembered that a number of births of Putland infants occur in Stamford Infirmary and are notified in that district.

The number of cases notified by each midwife was as follows :-

Uppingham Nursing Association	Nurse Silk	18
" " "	B Hetherington	17
Oakham Nursing Association	" Royce	26
" " "	" Coleman	1
Barrowden Nursing Association	" Cashen	18
Ketton & Ryhall Nursing Association	" Jackson	20
Langham Nursing Association	" Keay	10
Greetham Nursing Association	" Bashford	16
Empingham Nursing Association	" Boden	22
Midwife in Private Practice	" Bryan	19
	<u>Total</u>	<u>167</u>

The number of cases in the area of the Local Supervising Authority attended during the year by midwives was as follows :-

	<u>Domiciliary Cases</u>	<u>Cases in Institutions</u>
Employed by Voluntary Associations under arrangements made with the Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Sect. 1 of the Midwives Act 1936.		
(a) as midwives	* 148	(* 5 of these cases attended in Nursing Home on behalf of County Council)
(b) as maternity cases	34	
In private practice		
(a) as midwives	19	
(b) as maternity nurses	8	
Totals; as midwives	167	
as maternity nurses	42	

Medical aid was summoned by the midwives in 60 instances, or 17 per cent, as compared with 23.7% in Leicestershire in 1941, (57 for domiciliary cases and 3 for cases in institutions) viz., in 22 for ruptured perineum; in 11 for prolonged and difficult labour; in 4 for prematurity; in 2 for feebleness of baby; in 2 for abortion; in 2 for oedema of eyelids and legs; in 2 for discharge from baby's eyes; in 2 for miscarriage; in 2 for abnormal presentation; in 2 for haemorrhage, and for one each of the following conditions; prolapsed vaginal wall; stillbirth; breech presentation; varicose veins; placenta praevia; high temperature; injury to baby at birth; uterine inertia, and measles.

Thirty-eight claims were paid by the County Council under the Midwives Act 1918 during the year. The whole of the fee was recovered from the patients in 27 cases, a part of the fee in 6, and in 5 cases no recovery was made.

CONFINEMENTS IN INSTITUTIONS

The County Council arranged for the admission of 19 cases to institutions, 9 to Stamford Infirmary and 10 to Nurse Green's Home. One was a case of antepartum haemorrhage. A Caesarean section was performed. The second was admitted in labour. The confinement had been long, version was performed, and the dead infant was delivered by forceps. A blind woman was admitted on account of her disability. A young girl was delivered in a very insanitary home by forceps. She developed post-partum haemorrhage and was sent to Stamford Infirmary. She was later sent home, but had to be re-admitted on account of phlebitis. The last case was one of albuminuria. She passed through her confinement satisfactorily. All the others were admitted for want of proper accommodation in their homes. Two evacuees received institutional accommodation.

ANTE-NATAL EXAMINATIONS

Sixty-seven women were examined antenatally by medical practitioners. Six suffered from varicose veins; 3 suffered from slight albuminuria. In one of these blindness had been caused by tuberculous keratitis. She was admitted to the Maternity Wards of Stamford Infirmary and had a normal confinement. Four suffered from anaemia. One of these was associated with bad teeth, and another with vaginal discharge. Three abnormal presentations were discovered, and one breech presentation was converted to a vertex by the doctor. There was one case of slight contraction of the pelvis. One patient suffered from sciatics, one from sciatica, one from thyrotoxicosis, and one was a lady who thought she was pregnant, but the doctor did not. The child has not yet arrived. Only two women were examined post-natally.

CONSULTATIONS WITH OBSTETRIC SPECIALIST

Only one case was referred, and that one by the County Medical Officer. It was a case of slight pelvic contraction. On the advice of Dr Till she was delivered naturally. Apparently not as much use as might be is made of this service by general practitioners, for in Leicestershire with a population of 328,500 only 14 cases were referred and 11 of these were from the County Ante-natal Clinic.

DENTAL TREATMENT

Little has been done this year in comparison with 1941. One woman had her teeth extracted but left the County before she could be supplied with dentures, and another had her teeth extracted. No pre-school children were treated.

Maternity Outfits

You have continued to supply maternity outfits, and during the year ten dozen outfits were supplied to expectant mothers in the County.

VACCINATION

I am indebted to Mr Watson for the following report on vaccination:

<u>1942</u>	Number of Births	296
	Successfully vaccinated	72
	Died unvaccinated	8
	Statutory Declarations received	210
	Insusceptible to vaccination	1
	Removed or outstanding	5

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME

Details of the work of the various District Nursing Associations are given below :-

Uppingham Nursing Association

The County Council makes a grant of £210 a year to the funds of this Association, which includes a special grant of £20 for the village of Belton. Two fully trained nurse-midwives are employed (Nurses Hetherington and Silk). The district includes the town of Uppingham, and the villages of Ayston, Belton, Caldecott, Lyddington, Preston, Kidlington, Seaton, Stoke Dry, Thorpe-by-Water, and Wardley.

The following work was carried out from April 1st 1942 to March 31st 1943:-

Midwifery cases	29;	visits	517.
Maternity "	13;	"	239
Medical "	99		
Surgical "	52		

1,826 general visits were paid, 532 casual visits, and 173 ante-natal visits. Altogether 3,287 visits were paid by the Nurses during the year, compared with 3,012 in the previous year.

Ryhall and District Nursing Association.

Nurse Jackson, who holds the C.M.B. Certificate, carries out the work of this Association, to which has been added the Ketton Nursing Association, and work is now undertaken in Ryhall, Essendine, Great Casterton, Little Casterton, Tolethorpe, Pickworth, together with Ketton, North Luffenham, Tickencote, Tinwell and Tixover (formerly covered by the Ketton Nursing Association).

Nurse Jackson also assists the County Medical Officer with tuberculosis and venereal diseases work when the County Health Visitor is on holiday. The following is a record of the work performed during the year ended March 31st 1943:

Midwifery cases	21;	visits	384.
Maternity "	3;	"	34
Medical "	19		
Surgical "	16		

1,688 general visits, 1,181 casual visits, and 97 ante-natal visits were paid, making a total number of 3,384 visits during the year, compared with 3,301 in the previous year.

Barrowden & District Nursing Association.

The Rutland County Council subsidizes this Association to the extent of £90 per annum. The work is carried out by Nurse Cashen, who holds the C.M.B. Certificate. The Association undertakes work in the villages of Barrowden, South Luffenham, Morcott, Wing, Glaston, and Bisbrooke. During the year ended March 31st 1943 the following work was carried out:

Midwifery cases	11;	visits	224.
Maternity "	10;	"	212.
Medical "	8		
Surgical "	7		

1,530 general visits, 205 casual visits, and 103 ante-natal visits were paid. Altogether 2,274 visits were paid by the Nurse, as compared with 2,015 in the previous twelve months.

Oakham Nursing Association

The work of this Association is undertaken by Nurse Royce (now Mrs Farquhar) who holds the C.M.B. Certificate. The Rutland County Council makes a grant of £100 per annum to the funds of the Association, which undertakes work in the town of Oakham.

During the year ended March 31st 1943 the following cases were attended:

Midwifery	29;	visits	525;
Maternity	4;	"	68
Medical	29;		
Surgical	24.		

1,365 general visits were paid by the Nurse, 214 casual visits, and 159 ante-natal visits - a total of 2,331, compared with 2,734 in the previous year.

Empingham & District Nursing Association

This Association is subsidized by the County Council to the extent of £110 per annum, and undertakes work in the villages of Empingham, Edith Weston, Eggleton, Exton, Hambleton, Horne, Lyndon, Manton, Normanton, Whitwell, Gunthorpe, and Martinthorpe. The work is undertaken by Nurse Boden, C.M.B., and the following is a record of the work done from April 1st 1942 to March 31st 1943 :-

Midwifery cases	26;	visits	402;
Maternity	" 3;	"	67;
Medical	" 40;		
Surgical	" 19.		

Total number of visits 1,386, including 495 general, 229 casual, and 193 ante-natal visits. Last year 1,681 visits were made.

Langham & District Nursing Association

The County Council makes a grant of £100 per annum to the funds of this Association, which undertakes work in the villages of Ashwell, Barleythorpe, Burley, Langham, Whissendine, and midwifery and maternity work only in Braunston, Brooke, and Leighfield. Nurse L. Keay, C.M.B., carries out the work. The following is a record of the work performed during the year ended March 31st 1943 :-

Midwifery cases	20;	visits	292;
Maternity	" 5;	"	58;
Medical	" 26;		
Surgical	" 29.		

Total number of visits 2,432, including 1,500 general, 454 casual, and 128 ante-natal visits. Last year 2,567 visits were paid.

Greetham & District Nursing Association

This Association undertakes work in the villages of Greetham, Clipsham, Cottesmore, Barrow, Market Overton, Thistleton, and Stretton, and is subsidized by the County Council to the extent of £110 per annum.

The work is carried out by Nurse Bashford, C.M.B., and the following is a record of the work done during the year ended March 31st 1943 :-

Midwifery cases	17;	visits	321;
Maternity	" 2;	"	34;
Medical	" 121		
Surgical	" 41		

1,081 general visits, 227 casual, and 162 ante-natal visits were paid - a total of 1,825, compared with 1,947 last year.

HEALTH VISITING

During the year Nurse L. Shelton has assiduously visited newly born infants, and children under school age. Her findings are detailed below. 136 visits were paid to expectant mothers, 108 of these being first visits. 3,325 visits were paid to infants under 1 year of age, 336 of these being first visits.

To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years 3,009 visits were paid. Altogether Nurse Shelton made 6,472 visits during the year, as compared with 6,417 in 1941.

The record cards of the 336 infants who were visited for the first time were examined in detail. Seven of these were stillborn, one stillbirth being due to a breech presentation.

The method of feeding the 329 live born infants was as follows :-

Breast fed	179;
Bottle fed	76
Breast and bottle fed	46
No record	28

Of the bottle fed infants 54 were brought up on cow's milk, 10 on Ostermilk; 4 on National Milk, 3 on Truefood, 2 on Nestle's milk, 2 on Allenbury's Food, and 1 on Benger's Food.

A record as regards the use of a comforter, or dummy teat, was made in 273 cases. 52 made use of this insanitary appliance, and 221 did not. 304 of the 329 live born infants were sturdy, healthy youngsters. 16 were delicate, and 9 died during or before the period of the Nurse's visits, the causes of death being as follows :- prematurity 2; bronchitis 1; convulsions 1; broncho-pneumonia 1; marasmus 1; spina-bifida 1, congenital atelectasis 1, and intercranial haemorrhage 1.

The method of feeding the 16 non-thriving babies was as follows :- breast fed 5; bottle fed 7, breast and bottle fed 4.

286 of the babies slept in a separate cot or basket, 22 slept in the same bed as the parents, and in 21 cases no record was made.

The clothing of the infants was satisfactory in all but four cases.

The health of the mothers was generally good. 12 mothers had bad teeth, but only two of these submitted to dental treatment under the Authority's scheme. Eight mothers suffered from chronic constipation, three were anaemic, 3 had varicose veins, and 1 had an abscess of the breast. One mother became insane and was removed to Narborough.

One mother died shortly after her confinement.

Four of the mothers were described as dirty and slovenly.

The following scanty bedroom accommodation was noted :-

11 persons sleeping in 3 bedrooms	1 case
10 " " " 3 " "	1 "
9 " " " 3 " "	2 cases
8 " " " 2 " "	1 case
7 " " " 2 " "	4 cases
6 " " " 2 " "	6 "
6 " " " 1 bedroom	1 case
4 " " " 1 " "	1 "

Four of the houses were described as dirty and neglected, and several houses were very damp.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT 1929

Nurse Shelton is the appointed Visitor under this Act.

At the end of the year 6 children were on the Register.

All were well cared for and in a satisfactory condition of health.

One has since been officially adopted by the foster parents.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were, as in 1941, only ten deaths occurring among children of or under one year of age, but as there were 20 more births the rate reaches the satisfactory figure of 29.8. This is nearly, but not quite, the record for this County. In 1931 there were only 7 deaths and the infant mortality rate was 26.2. Compared with other areas you may feel justly much satisfaction. In England and Wales as a whole the infant mortality rate was 49; in the 126 great towns, including London, 59; in the 148 smaller towns 46, and in the London Administrative County 60. It is obvious that those contemplating a second birth should resort to Rutland !

I have only records of 9 deaths, 6 in males and 3 in females. Two of the males reached the age of one month, one dying from marasmus; the other had a split spinal column which exposed the spinal cord. Two males lived 3 days and 2 days respectively, the first died from intercranial haemorrhage, and the second from congenital atelectasis or failure of the lungs to expand. Two males died from prematurity aged 2 hours and $\frac{1}{2}$ hour respectively. The three females lived for longer periods. A girl of eleven months died from bronchitis and heart failure, a girl of 8 months from convulsions and over distension of the stomach due to over-eating, a girl of 6 months died from broncho-pneumonia following whooping cough. The 6 male deaths seem not preventible. On the other hand two female deaths might have been prevented by avoiding over-eating, and by vaccination for whooping cough. It is hoped that the Council will provide vaccination for the prevention of whooping cough in young children, which could be undertaken by the County Medical Officer.

The number of infant deaths, and the rates in each year since 1910 are as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of infants dying under 1 year of age.</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1910	31	75.0
1911	40	92.3
1912	16	39.6
1913	34	56.0
1914	32	86.7
1915	33	86.7
1916	24	77.1
1917	21	76.9
1918	18	68.9
1919	22	90.1
1920	25	62.9
1921	16	44.4
1922	12	35.9
1923	17	55.5
1924	23	72.5
1925	23	79.8
1926	18	60.2
1927	16	62.9
1928	12	45.9
1929	22	84.2
1930	12	44.6
1931	7	26.2
1932	9	33.5

Infant Mortality Rates (Cont)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Infants dying under 1 year of age.</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1933	12	52.4
1934	12	50.8
1935	10	41.1
1936	11	43.3
1937	13	52.0
1938	9	35.7
1939	9	35.1
1940	13	48.5
1941	10	31.6
1942	10	29.8

D E A T H S

The number of deaths in the County in 1942 was 214 (102 males and 112 females) a rate of 11.2, compared with 11.0 in 1941.

In 1942 there were no recorded deaths in persons who had reached 100 years. There were 4 deaths (2 males and 2 females) in persons of 90 years and over, the eldest being 96. One of the two women died from bronchitis and the other from arteriosclerosis. One of the men died from myocarditis and the other from arteriosclerosis.

Thirty persons (13 males and 17 females) reached 80 years of age. Two of the 13 men died from cancer, one of the lip and another of the gullet; 2 men died from strangulated ruptures, 2 from bronchitis, one from nephritis, and one from senility. Seven of the 17 women died from cardio-vascular disease, 2 from cerebral haemorrhage, 2 from bronchitis, 2 from senility, and one from each of the following conditions: cancer of the peritoneum, nephritis, shock after fracture of the shoulder, and gangrene of the feet.

The Registrar-General records 29 deaths from cancer.

I have records of 12 cases in men, affecting the following organs: stomach 4 cases, gullet 2 cases, rectum 3 cases, colon 1, prostate 1, and glands of neck 1.

The organs affected in the 17 women who died from this disease were : colon 3, stomach 3, rectum 2, cervix 2, peritoneum 1, lung 1, nose 1, ovary 1, kidney 1, bladder 1, and glands 1.

It is noteworthy that 18 of the 29 deaths were due to cancer of the stomach, gullet, and various portions of the bowel.

In addition to the cure by operative methods and by radium, much help is now given to those patients who are not suitable for the radical cure of the disease but whose life is made wretched by pain.

Cobra venom by intramuscular injection has been used in the United States with benefit, and again the local and general application of cold refrigeration and hibernation has been found most effective in relieving pain, reducing the size of the tumour, and general improvement in the condition of the patient.

It seems highly desirable that the County Council should now take steps to help sufferers from cancer by arrangement with the general hospitals at Leicester, Nottingham, or the cancer centre recently established at Scunthorpe.

The Registrar-General records 9 deaths from all forms of pneumonia. I have records of 8, 4 occurring in the Rural Districts and 4 in Oakham. Two were cases of lobar pneumonia, one in a man aged 73, and the other in a woman of the same age. 7 females succumbed to broncho-pneumonia, one being an infant of 6 months, one a child of 1½ years, and one of 5 years. The others occurred between the ages of 60 and 70 years. Last year there were 18 deaths from this disease. The sulphonamides are being used widely for this complaint and their value is now established, discussion now being directed on which variety of this drug reliance should be placed.

There were no deaths recorded from syphilitic disease in Rutland in 1941. As in last year's report, so now, I record only two deaths from suicide: a young man of 19 shot himself, and a man of 70 hanged himself. There were 5 deaths due to accidents. A child of 5 was drowned, a man of 65 and a woman of 84 died after the fracture of bones, and two young men died by accidental shooting. 42 deaths in young men between the ages of 19 and 30 years were due to aeroplane accidents or to war operations. The Registrar-General assigns 51 deaths to heart disease. On looking through these deaths I find 41 are due primarily to defects of this organ or of the blood vessels. 24 succumbed to myocarditis, 12 being men and 12 women; 9 to arteriosclerosis, 4 to valvular disease, the valve affected being mentioned in one (the aortic valve.) 3 deaths were attributed to coronary thrombosis, 1 in a man and two in women, and one death to high blood pressure in a man of 70.

I regret to have to record the death of a woman in pregnancy. She died at a Nursing Home in the town of Stamford at the age of 38 years.

There were 3 deaths from diabetes according to the Registrar-General. A female of 54 died of non-alcoholic cirrhosis of the liver. A woman of 52 died of Grave's Disease - a disease of the thyroid gland, and a man of 77 died of acute heart failure associated with a large goitre. There was one death from Hodgkin's Disease in a woman of 47.

I record 10 deaths in young male persons between the ages of 1 and 19 years. 6 of these occurred in youths killed by war operations. An infant aged 22 months died of spina bifida associated with water on the brain. A boy of 2 died of diphtheria. His parents had accepted immunisation. Unfortunately I was ill for over 3 months and immunisation was never performed. A boy of 5 was accidentally drowned, and a boy of 9 died from osteomyelitis.

The Registrar-General records 23 deaths from intracranial vascular lesions, but only 17 came to my notice. 5 males succumbed to cerebral haemorrhage. One of these was an infant aged 3 days and occurred during delivery. Two were due to thrombosis. 7 of the females succumbed to haemorrhage and 2 to thrombosis. 2 deaths are ascribed to cerebral softening, one in a man of 70 and another in a woman of 76.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

There were four deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, a mortality rate of 0.21 per 1000 of the population.

The first was a case of a woman who was first seen and notified in June 1932. She died on January 17th 1942. When first seen she presented signs of cavitation at the right apex. Her sputum was, however, negative. She went to Eversfield Sanatorium in July 1932 and remained there till 23- 12- 32. She was much improved and had gained weight. She remained well till February 1933, when she brought up an ounce of blood, and the disease was found to have spread to the left lung. She was having injections for haemorrhoids from her own Doctor. In July 1934 she was admitted to Creton Sanatorium, and was discharged on 20- 12- 34. She had made good progress, but infiltration and cavitation were present in the left lung, while the right lung showed evidence of healing. She remained well till October 1935, when she again had haemorrhage. She was in poor health till May 1936, and then remained well till August 1936, when haemorrhage started again. She was sent to Creton on 15- 9- 36 and remained till 7- 12-36.

The X-ray report was:

" Right lung, several small cavities in the upper zone:
Left lung, infiltration and fibrosis with a large recent tubercle in the second intercostal space."

She remained fairly well till December 1937, when she again had haemorrhage and cavitation had extended well down the right lung. On February 10th 1938 she was sent to St. John's Hospital, Peterborough but discharged herself on 13- 2- 38. From that time onwards she got gradually weaker and no further institutional treatment was considered advisable.

The case illustrates very well the long drawn out character of the disease.

The second case was that of H.S, who was notified on 5- 11- 41, and who died in February 1942. He was a rapidly fatal case - an exact contrast to the woman mentioned above.

The third case occurred in an Irishman aged 38, who was notified on 12- 5- 42 as a case of tuberculous broncho-pneumonia. He died on 18- 5- 42. I was disabled at the time and never saw him.

The fourth death occurred in a woman aged 48, who had been in inmate of Carlton Hayes Asylum. I never saw her.

The following are the number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis since 1910 :-

1910 - 13;	1911 - 16;	1912 - 12;	1913 - 12;	1914 - 15;	1915 - 9;
1916 - 9;	1917 - 14;	1918 - 11;	1919 - 8;	1920 - 10;	1921 - 13;
1922 - 11;	1923 - 5;	1924 - 5;	1925 - 5;	1926 - 10;	1927 - 7;
1928 - 8;	1929 - 10;	1930 - 10;	1931 - 4;	1932 - 10;	1933 - 7;
1934 - 5;	1935 - 5;	1936 - 5;	1937 - 7;	1938 - 5;	1939 - 8;
1940 - 6;	1941 - 2;	1942 - 4.			

It is interesting to observe the very small number of deaths during the War years, a striking contrast to other areas.

The following cases were notified during the year :-

Mrs H. Was the wife of an Officer in the Air Force, who was living in lodgings. She presented signs of early disease. Her sputum was negative. She was admitted to Creaton on 8- 1- 42, having been notified on that day, and was discharged on 28- 10- 42 to another Authority.

Mr S. Aged 58. Gave a history of having been invalided out of the Army in 1918 and treated for four months in a Sanatorium in Suffolk. He received no pension. Tubercle bacilli were found in his sputum on 21- 1- 42. He was notified on 23- 1- 42, and was admitted to the Sanatorium on 3- 2- 42, presenting signs in both lungs. He did well, and was discharged on 27- 5- 42. He suffers, unfortunately, from epilepsy. His sputum was negative on discharge from the Sanatorium and has been negative since.

Mr C. Aged 36. Was invalided out of the Army. He rejoined the Army in 1939, and felt well till the beginning of 1941. He was admitted to Black Notley Sanatorium in May 1941, where tubercle bacilli were found in the sputum, and cavitation in the right upper lobe. He was first seen by me in June 1941 and was then doing fairly well and was doing light work. He had a cavity in the right lung. He became worse in October 1941. He was then re-notified by a doctor residing in Leicestershire. I visited him weekly and advised complete rest in bed. He did not improve, and I had him admitted to Creaton Sanatorium on 20- 2- 42, with a view to a thoracoplasty being performed. There were, however, extensive changes around the hilum of the left lung and consequently Dr Starkie thought operation inadvisable. He was discharged on 4-7-42 much improved. Domestic trouble caused his re-admission in March 1943. I considered that he would derive no benefit, and on 5- 8- 43 he came back far worse than when he went. Further accommodation was obtained for him at Preston Hall, but he refused to go there.

Mr P.T. Was a case of galloping consumption already referred to.

Mr J.D. Was a transfer from Manchester. He had had institutional and sanatorium treatment for 11 months. I saw him first in July 1942. I found he still had the germs of pulmonary tuberculosis in his sputum and the left lung was extensively diseased; his right lung less so. He is working on the railway in charge of a level crossing and is doing fairly well.

Mr R.D. Was an Army case, who was discharged from Preston Hall in October 1942. He had extensive disease in the left lung and a small amount on the right. A left sided artificial pneumothorax had been attempted, but failed. He has a good home and there are no children. He has gained over a stone in weight.

Mrs J. Aged 29. Was first seen by me on 2- 10- 42. She presented signs of extensive disease of the right lung. Tubercle bacilli were present in the sputum. She was admitted to Creaton Sanatorium on 29- 10- 42. A thoracoplasty was performed by Mr Sellors and she was discharged from the Sanatorium on 19- 6- 43. She has done well.

Mrs Z. Aged 53. Was first seen on 8- 6- 42, but was not notified until 1943. She was a school teacher. She has had gastric trouble for years, and in 1933 a gastro-enterostomy was performed. A specimen of her sputum was obtained on 29- 5- 42 and found to contain tubercle bacilli, and on 8- 6- 42 I examined her and found disease in both lungs - more active on the left. She refused to go to a Sanatorium, and an artificial pneumothorax has been performed by me. She has improved greatly, but her disease is serious and she was much debilitated. Free X-ray examination has now been offered to all teachers in the County.

Miss W. A school child aged 8. Had had a cough for some years. She was first examined at school. She presented signs suggestive of disease in both lungs, and on X-ray examination it was reported that the left hilar and perihilar regions show a fairly dense infiltration which feathers out into the upper lobe. The right hilum is also enlarged and some fine nodules are present perihillary. A more defined area of infiltration is visible in the middle lobe. The appearances are suggestive of a pneumonic type of Tb.

Dispensary Treatment

During the year 73 patients were examined, as compared with 76 in 1941. 499 examinations were made, as compared with 623 in 1941. 12 consultations were held with medical men. 113 samples of sputum were examined. 10 were positive and 103 negative. 57 artificial pneumothorax inductions and refills were performed on 5 patients. In one case the treatment was terminated, having been maintained for 4 years. The man is in full work. Two patients have left the County and are at work, and of the two who are still continuing treatment in the County one is at work and the other is up and about. Ten X-ray examinations were made during the year.

NON- PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

Five cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. 3 of these were males and two females. Two of the men suffered from tuberculous glands of the neck. Both were treated in Hospital but not in connection with the County scheme. The third man had sacro-iliac disease. He lived in a wretched home but obstinately refused sanatorium treatment. It was not until 1943 that Dr Williams and I were able to persuade him to go to Stamford Infirmary, where he was admitted on 10- 3- 43. Two females were notified. One was a girl in whose urine tubercle bacilli had been found, but inoculation into a guinea pig did not disclose the disease and nothing was found on clinical examination. The second case was one of hip joint disease who was treated privately. The one death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred in a woman of 73. I never saw her, but I believe that cancer had arisen in an old lupus, which is tuberculosis of the skin. The case was not notified.

SANATORIUM TREATMENT

During the year 12 patients were treated, as follows :-

Creaton Sanatorium, Northampton	9
Stamford Infirmary	2
Children's Sanatorium, Holt	1

On the Dispensary Register at the end of the year there were 20 adult males, 14 adult females, and 2 female children suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and 4 adult males, 1 adult female, and 6 children (1 boy and 5 girls) suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Thirty-six patients presented themselves for treatment or examination during the year 1942, as compared with 47 in 1941, and 22 in 1940. Four had been previously treated at other centres. Seven of the 36 patients were suffering from syphilis; one was a case of primary syphilis in a male. Two were young women with secondary syphilis, and 2 men were in the later stages of the disease. Eight patients were suffering from gonorrhoea, but 4 of these had been treated at other centres, 3 of the 4 being Army cases. Fifteen cases were found not to be suffering from venereal disease. Four cases who had been marked off as defaulters (1 male and 1 female suffering from syphilis, and 1 male and 1 female suffering from gonorrhoea) returned to the Clinic during the year.

On January 1st 1942 eighteen cases were under treatment, 13 for syphilis, 4 for gonorrhoea, and 1 for diseases other than venereal disease. One case of syphilis, 1 case of gonorrhoea, and 18 of other diseases were discharged as cured during the year. Two cases of syphilis ceased to attend. One patient with syphilis died from other causes, and one in the later stages gave up attendance. Three cases of gonorrhoea (1 man and 2 women) ceased to attend before completion of treatment. Four cases of syphilis and 6 cases of gonorrhoea were transferred to other centres. Fifteen cases of syphilis and 4 of gonorrhoea were still under treatment on December 31st 1942.

535 attendances were made during the year, 498 for treatment by the Medical Officer, and 37 for intermediate treatment.

354 of these attendances were made by Rutland patients, 131 by Kesteven patients, 25 by Holland (Lincs) patients, 4 by Northamptonshire patients, and 21 by Service cases. No in-patient treatment was required.

207 injections of arsenic were given, and 184 injections of bismuth. The following samples from the Clinic were examined pathologically :-
47 for the Wassermann reaction;

15 for the Kahn reaction;

1 exudate for the Treponema Pallida;

70 smears for the gonococcus;

21 for the Gonococcal Complement Fixation Test;

5 for Trichomona Vaginalis;

12 examinations of urine for the gonococcus;

3 for Bacillus Coli.

A total of 174 samples, as compared with 213 in 1941, and 86 in 1940.

In addition 32 samples were sent by medical practitioners, 12 for the Wassermann reaction, 4 for the Gonococcal Complement Fixation Test, 15 smears for the gonococcus, and 1 for Trichomona.

There has been a diminution again in the number of cases, but this diminution is not likely to continue.

There has been much attention drawn to venereal disease during the last months, and when attention is drawn to this disease there is always an increase in the attendances. Most of them are made by very elderly gentlemen or very neurotic young gentlemen, but these are not the persons whom the Venereal Disease Officer can help.

Pictorial advertisements have been issued by the Central Council for Health Education, but what they intend to convey is to me a mystery. A depressed looking gentleman in a soft felt hat is seen walking along what appears to be a seaside pier. At equal distances are depicted on pillars the words " January, February, and March. " In another picture a still more depressed looking gent is seen entering the Clinic. There was also a picture of a lady in a wedding dress inscribed " Here comes the Bride."

They have not been utilized in this County, but the times and days of the Clinic are advertised on the posters issued by the National Council for the Prevention of Venereal Disease, and have been posted in every village.

The much discussed Regulation 33B did not come into force till 1943. It compels the Medical Officer of the County, when he receives information from a Medical Officer of a Clinic, that one person has communicated diseases to not less than two other persons, to serve a notice upon the infecting person.

These conditions were satisfied in one instance, two gentlemen living in Stamford and Northamptonshire accused a lady living in Stamford of having infected them with a venereal disease.

I communicated with the County Medical Officer of Kesteven, and the lady in question is now attending regularly.

I have received other notices, but in these the full name and address of the infecting person is not given, and usually only the name of one infected person.

It seems highly improbable that the infecting females will give their right names in future, or that the sufferer will give his.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS 1913- 1938.

On January 1st 1943 thirteen males and twenty females were in approved Institution. Four of the males are at Stoke Park Colony, 2 at Mountsorrel Institution, 1 at Princess Christian's Colony, 6 at Stretton Hall. Twelve of the females are accommodated at the Oakham Public Assistance Institution, 6 at Stretton Hall Institution, 1 at Loughborough Public Assistance Institution, and 1 at Stapleton Institution, near Bristol.

In addition 5 defectives (3 males and 2 females) are resident in the Oakham Public Assistance Institution and are in receipt of Poor Law relief. Two males and one female are in the State Institution for mental defectives at Rampton, Notts.

Altogether 41 mental defectives (18 males and 23 females) are in Institutions.

Ten persons (6 males and 4 females) are under Guardianship. All of them are in the care of their parents. One patient who became too troublesome and too ill to be suitable for Guardianship under the Brighton Guardianship Society was transferred to the Oakham Public Assistance Institution.

The following reports have been received with regard to defectives in Institutions :-

- L.F. Aged 45. Is a feeble minded woman; does good work as a kitchen helper, is no trouble, and is happy. She attends religious services, annual treats, and cinemas.
- T.T. Aged 40. Is a feeble minded man, who is happy and contented. He is employed as a woodman. He attends religious services.
- G.P. Aged 33. Is a low grade male imbecile with a mental age of less than 3 years. He does low grade darning. His amusements consist of simple games and the wireless. He attends religious services.
- J.T. Aged 24. Is a male idiot with a mental age of 2.1 years. He does simple work. His recreations consist of listening to the gramophone and wireless. He does not attend religious services.
- G.W. Aged 24½. Is an imbecile man with a mental age of 7 years. He is employed as a mat maker. He takes no interest in games. He attends religious services.
- F.S. Aged 23. Is a feeble minded man with a mental age of 10.8 years. He works in the tailor's repair shop. He plays billiards and attends religious services. On 17- 4- 42 he went on Licence to the Hazeldon Hostel, Redmarley, Gloucestershire, but had to be discharged as he was lazy and insolent. He was earning £2- 10- 0 a week plus overtime. His home circumstances are very unsatisfactory.
- W.T. Is a feeble minded man aged 34. He works in the garden of Mountsorrel Institution and at wood sawing. He goes for walks and attends religious services, fêtes, sports, and cinemas.
- W.R. Is an imbecile aged 31. His work is similar to that of W.T, and his exercises and recreations are the same.

The following twelve are at Stretton Hall Institution :-

- H.B. Is an imbecile man aged 33. He does no work, goes for walks, and does not attend religious services.
- A.B. Is an imbecile woman aged 21. She knits and picks material for cushion fitting. She is a cripple and can play no games. She attends religious services.
- E.C. Is a feeble minded woman aged 35, who is employed as a nurse's bedroom maid. She dances, plays ball games, goes for walks, and attends religious services.
- O.G. Is a feeble minded man aged 38, who works on the farm. He goes to picnics and on parole to cricket and football matches. He does not attend religious services regularly. He is now awaiting admission to the Stottesdon Hostel, near Kidderminster.
- G.C. Is a feeble minded woman aged 40. She works in the laundry. She dances, goes for walks, and plays cards. She attends religious services.
- D.G. Is an imbecile man aged 23. He is unable to work, play, or attend religious services.
- M.L. Is a Mongolian Imbecile aged 17. She attends the school, skips, plays games, and attends religious services.
- P.N. Is a feeble minded girl aged 6. She skips, digs, and plays games, and attends religious services.
- B.P. Is a feeble minded woman aged 25. She is an assistant matron's maid. She dances, plays games, including cricket, and attends religious services.
- C.R. Is a feeble minded man aged 24. He works in the garden, plays cricket, football and cards, and goes to the pictures on parole, and is seen by the Roman Catholic Priest. His parents are now living in the North of England and wish for a transfer, but the Durham County Council have no vacancies.
- R.W. Is a feeble minded man aged 27. He does domestic work. He is too infirm to play games. He attends religious services. He is given annual leave to his sister who lives at Kettering.
- G.Y. Is a Mongolian Imbecile. He does a little work on the land. He takes no interest in any games. He attends religious services.

There are twelve female defectives in the Oakham Public Assistance Institution. All of them are classified as mental defectives; one is also a moral defective. Three are employed in the laundry, 2 in the scullery, 1 in the kitchen, 1 as a matron's maid, 1 as a mess room maid, 1 as a ward maid, and 3 as general cleaners.

All the defectives attend religious services, and are visited every Friday by the Chaplain. The patients are taken for walks on Saturday afternoons, with occasional visits to the cinema. Wireless is installed in the day room, and a number of indoor games are available.

Over 400 garments have been made by these patients for H.M. Forces.

The reports on the ten patients under Guardianship are as follows :-

H.B. Is a feeble minded youth. Is unable to work owing to spinal disease.

L.R. Is a male Mongolian Imbecile who works on his garden.

C.G. Is an imbecile man who works on his father's allotment and goes round with his father on a coal round.

S.T. Is a male Mongolian Imbecile who assists his parents in domestic work.

E.N. Is a female Mongolian Imbecile who does no work.

M.S. Is a feeble minded woman who does all the domestic work for her elderly parents.

N.M. Is a feeble minded woman who does useful domestic work for her parents.

K.P. Is an imbecile girl who looks after poultry, does domestic work, and distributes newspapers.

H.M. A male imbecile. Has fits and is unable to do useful work.

J.N. Is an imbecile man who assists in farm work.

There are 29 women and girls under Statutory Supervision.

22 of them are classified as feeble minded, 6 as Imbeciles, and 1 as an Idiot.

Eight of the women carry on household duties and 3 of them are married and have homes of their own. They look after their children well.

Six are doing well in domestic service, and 3 are employed in a factory at Barrowden.

There are 22 defective men under Supervision. 15 are classified as feeble minded, 6 as Imbecile, and one as an Idiot.

One of the 22 was admitted to Stretton Hall early in 1943.

Five are usefully employed on the land, 2 are employed as gardeners, 2 work at the ironstone quarries, 1 is an apprentice to an upholsterer, 1 works in his father's workshop, 1 assists his father who is a plumber and decorator, 1 goes with a coal lorry, 1 repairs bicycles, and 1 does odd jobs for a veterinary surgeon.

MENTAL TREATMENT ACT

During the year 1942 one " Voluntary " patient was admitted to Carlton Hayes Hospital, Narborough under the Mental Treatment Act.

No " Temporary " patients were admitted.

The number of Rutland insane persons at Carlton Hayes Hospital on December 31st 1942 was 39 (16 men and 23 women).

BLIND PERSONS ACT

At the beginning of the year 1942 there were 36 registered blind persons in Rutland. 31 of these were in receipt of old age pensions, and one other received a pension from another source.

30 were in receipt of a weekly grant from the Leicester Institute for the Blind. One person is in the care of St Dunstan's, and one is in a Home for the Blind.

Four are Braille type readers. 377 visits were paid to the Rutland blind by the Home Teacher, Miss E. Knowles, to whom I am much indebted for this information.

Five blind persons died during the year, and 5 persons were registered in 1942.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

The following samples were examined under the Food & Drugs Act during the year :-

Milk	25
Whisky	9
Beer	3
Gravy Salt	1
Baking Powder	1
Custard Powder	1
Self raising flour	1
Creamola	1
Malted oatmeal	1
Pea flour	1
Ground rice	1
Drinking Chocolate	1
Coffee and Chicory	1
Mustard Mixture	1
Egg Substitute	1

Total :- 49

All were taken formally. Three samples of milk were reported against, one being 41% deficient in fat, one 13%, and one 6% deficient in fat. A summons was taken out against the Vendor of the sample 41% deficient in fat and a conviction obtained.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :-

<u>Disease</u>	Oakham <u>U.D.</u>	Oakham <u>R.D.</u>	Uppingham <u>R.D.</u>	Ketton <u>R.D.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever	10	6	2	2	20
Whooping Cough	1	10	14	8	33
Diphtheria	3	-	4	-	7
Erysipelas	4	2	-	3	9
Measles	114	52	73	14	239
Pneumonia	4	1	2	2	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2	1	-	3
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	1	1

Dr Hawes remarks that in 1941 accommodation for evacuee children suffering from measles, rubella, chicken-pox, mumps, whooping cough, and scabies was provided by the Kesteven Civil Defence Authority. Children normally resident in the area can be admitted at a weekly charge of £3- 3- 0 if suffering from an infectious disease, or £1-10-0 if suffering from scabies.

I am continuing to carry out diphtheria immunisation, and up to June 30th 1943 the numbers immunised were :-

<u>District</u>	<u>Under 5 years</u>	<u>Over 5 Years.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Oakham U.D.	110	148	258
Oakham R.D.	267	363	630
Uppingham R.D.	228	615	843
Ketton R.D.	157	364	521
Totals :-	762	1,490	2,252

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS, ORDER

There are three Tuberculin Tested herds in the County, and 28 accredited herds. 91 herds were examined. 1,966 cows were examined by the veterinary surgeons. 99 milk samples were collected during the year, 88 being routine tests, 4 retests, and 7 advisory - a total of 99.

WORK OF THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH OF URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS

Dr Hawes says that a small chlorinating plant was installed in the privately owned supply to Little Casterton village. Two wells at Ketton, 2 at Great Casterton, 1 at Pickworth, 1 at Ryhall, and 2 at Clipsham are unsatisfactory.

An animal was reported from the Stamford slaughter house to be suffering from lead poisoning. The feedings stuffs and water were analysed. A sample of pea-nut meal was contaminated with lead.

At the end of the year 74% of children under 5, and 92% of those between 5 and 15 years had been immunised against diphtheria in the Ketton Rural District.

The Council has contracted with the Kesteven County Council for the treatment of scabies at a charge of 21/- per patient. This includes treatment, ambulance facilities, and visits to the infected home by the Stamford scabies Health Visitor.

The number of cases treated was 18, 2 being men 10 women, and 6 children.

Dr Young's Reports for 1941 were not commented on last year. They are now to hand, but those for 1942 have not, up to the time of writing, reached me.

Dr Young remarks that the water supply of Oakham has been much restricted, and this is especially felt by the schools.

Samples taken early in 1942 he reports as satisfactory.

In the Oakham Rural District bacteriological examinations of well water were made in 10 instances. 8 of these were unsatisfactory. 9 samples were taken from piped supplies, and as many as 4 of these were unsatisfactory. It is obvious that an enormous amount of work requires to be performed.

In the Uppingham District the need is even greater. 8 parishes are without a pipe supply, they are Barrowden, Belton, Bisbrooke, Caldecott, North and South Luffenham, Morcott, and Seaton.

The emergency public health laboratory service set up throughout the country has been much appreciated by the doctors. 69 throat swabs, 64 samples of urine and faeces, 29 of blood, 29 samples of water, 2 of milk, 3 vaginal swabs, 2 of pus, and 2 of cerebro-spinal fluid having been examined.

WORK OF THE DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS

Dr Williams reports only two cases - one of 73 and the other 93; the diagnosis in both was old age.

Dr Clapperton reports on 42 cases, Dr Hutton reports on 7, Dr Barton on 17, and Dr Edwards on 14 cases - a total of 37 individual patients. I think it would be more economical to pay a fixed annual sum for each case attended, say £1 a year.

CHRISTOPHER ROLLESTON

Ketton
Stamford

